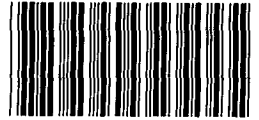


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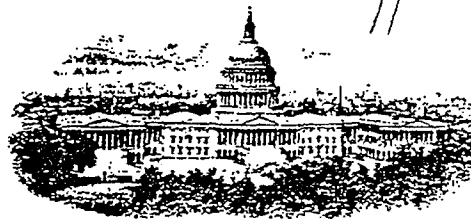
DISTRICT OFFICE

 125 S. STATE  
 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84138  
 TELEPHONE (801) 524-4394

 WAYNE OWENS  
 UTAH - 2nd DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

 INTERIOR AND  
 INSULAR AFFAIRS


Congress of the United States  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

September 20, 1988

 SF FILE NUMBER  
 5-5.01

EA/Gunn

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FILE PLAT

5.01

 Mr. Lee M. Thomas, Administrator  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 401 M Street, S.W.  
 Washington, DC 20460

 Re: EPA's Proposed Listing of Richardson Flat  
 Tailings Site, Summit County, Utah, on the  
 National Priorities List

Dear Mr. Thomas:

It has been brought to my attention that the EPA is moving rapidly towards a decision to list the Richardson Flat tailings site in Summit County, Utah, on the National Priorities List. This decision will have serious consequences in my State and may irreparably damage a vulnerable company that has been a major contributor to Utah's economic strength.

I am troubled by the hurried schedule and the apparently inconsistent decision to postpone action on the adjacent and similar Prospector Square site until the new ranking system is developed. It is my understanding that the Prospector Square decision was a response to Congressional intent that a new and more fair ranking system be used for this type of mine waste.

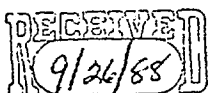
My initial investigations suggest that a number of procedural and substantive irregularities have occurred in the analysis of the Richardson Flat site. I would like to review them with you and your appropriate staff member.

Is it possible for you to meet in my office at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, October 3, 1988, to discuss this matter? \*

I ask that you postpone any decision-making with respect to the Richardson Flat site until I have had an opportunity to pursue my concerns with you.

Cordially,

Wayne Owens



WO:11

\* I Can Come To Your office if that is better for You.  
 Pat Quinn